

# Special Superintendents Webcast

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Feb. 23, 2021



# Agenda

## **Welcome**

Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education and Chief Learner

## **Kentucky Broadband Speed Test Update**

Lt. Gov. Jacqueline Coleman

## **KDE Communications Update**

Toni Konz Tatman, Chief Communications Officer, Office of the Commissioner

## **New KDE COVID-19 Guidance 2.0 Document**

Kelly Foster, Ed.D., Associate Commissioner, KDE Office of Continuous Improvement  
and Support

## **Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System (KTRS) Update**

Beau Barnes, Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel

*(Continued)*





# Agenda

*(Continued)*

## **ESSER II Preliminary Plans and Superintendents' Discussion**

- **Rob Clayton**, Warren County
- **David Trimble**, Pikeville Independent
- **Marlene Helm**, Interim, Fayette County
- **Carrie Ballinger**, Rockcastle County
- **Karen Cheser**, Fort Thomas Independent

## **Questions and Answer Session**

**with Superintendent Guests and KDE Leadership Team**

(Submit questions via Google Form)

## **Adjournment**

Jason E. Glass, Ed.D., Commissioner of Education and Chief Learner





# Kentucky Broadband Speed Test Update

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**Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman**



# KDE Communications Updates

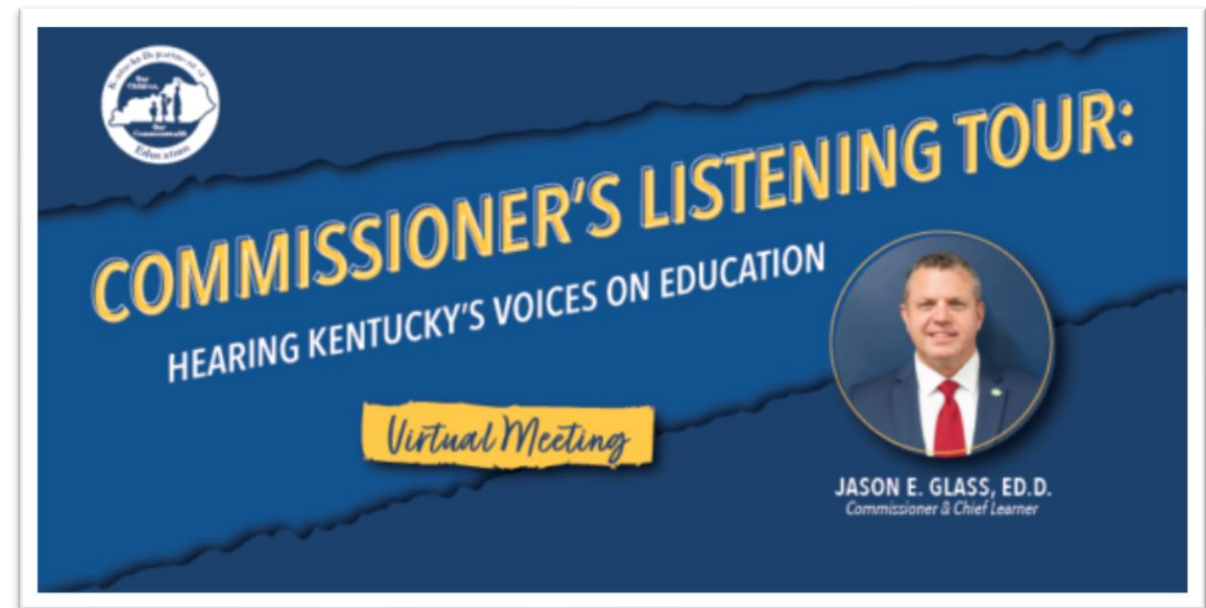
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**Toni Konz Tatman**, *KDE Chief Communications Officer,*  
*Office of the Commissioner*



# Commissioner's Listening Tour

- To gather input on long-term aspirations for Kentucky's education system
- April 6-May 6
- Nine sessions will be held across the state, one in each cooperative region and one in Louisville. Sessions will be in the evening and last approximately 90 minutes.
- KDE is in the early planning phases of this work and more information will be released in the coming weeks.

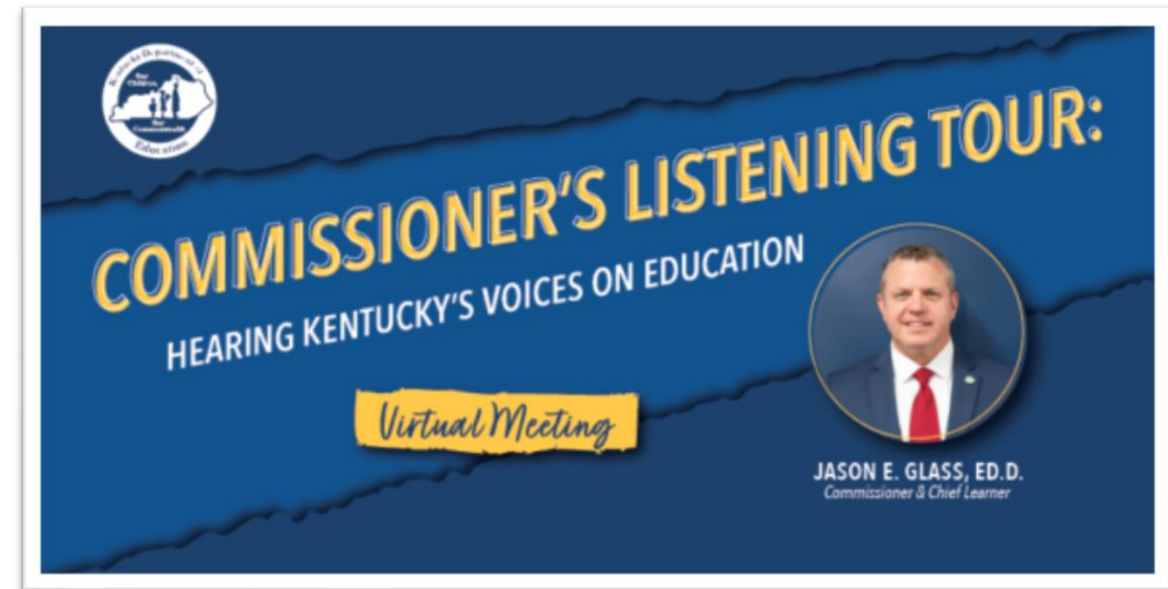


[Pre-registration is available.](#)



# Commissioner's Listening Tour

- **April 6, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Greater Louisville Educational Cooperative (Louisville)
- **April 8, 6-7:30 p.m. CT:** West Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Murray)
- **April 15, 6-7:30 p.m. CT:** Green River Regional Educational Cooperative (Bowling Green)
- **April 20, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Southeast/South-Central Educational Cooperative (Richmond)
- **April 22, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Central Kentucky Educational Cooperative (Lexington)
- **April 27, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Northern Kentucky Cooperative for Education Services (Cold Springs)
- **April 29, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Ohio Valley Educational Cooperative (Shelbyville)
- **May 4, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Kentucky Valley Educational Cooperative (Hazard)
- **May 6, 6-7:30 p.m. ET:** Kentucky Educational Development Cooperative (Ashland)





# Nominations Are Now Open for KBE's David Karem Award

- Named for former Kentucky Board of Education chairman David Karem
- Recognizes a state policymaker, education leader or citizen who has made notable, state-level contributions to the improvement of Kentucky's public education system
- Nominations open through March 17 and [may be submitted online](#)
- Winner will be announced in June





# Students encouraged to apply for 2021-2022 Commissioner's Student Advisory Council

- Year-long program.
- The group meets with the commissioner and Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) staff to discuss how decisions made at the state level are affecting students throughout Kentucky.
- Members will provide feedback from a student perspective on critical issues impacting Kentucky students and schools.
- Applications are open through March 12 and [may be submitted online](#)





# ESSER II – Assurances, Spending Plan, and FAQs

- ESSER II Assurances and Spending Plans available for review Wednesday, 2/24 in GMAP (see Commissioner's Monday message 2/22).
- State Set Aside Opt-In contained in ESSER II Assurance (\$75 per pupil based upon district election under SB 177).
- [ESSER II FAQs](#)



# New KDE COVID-19 Guidance 2.0

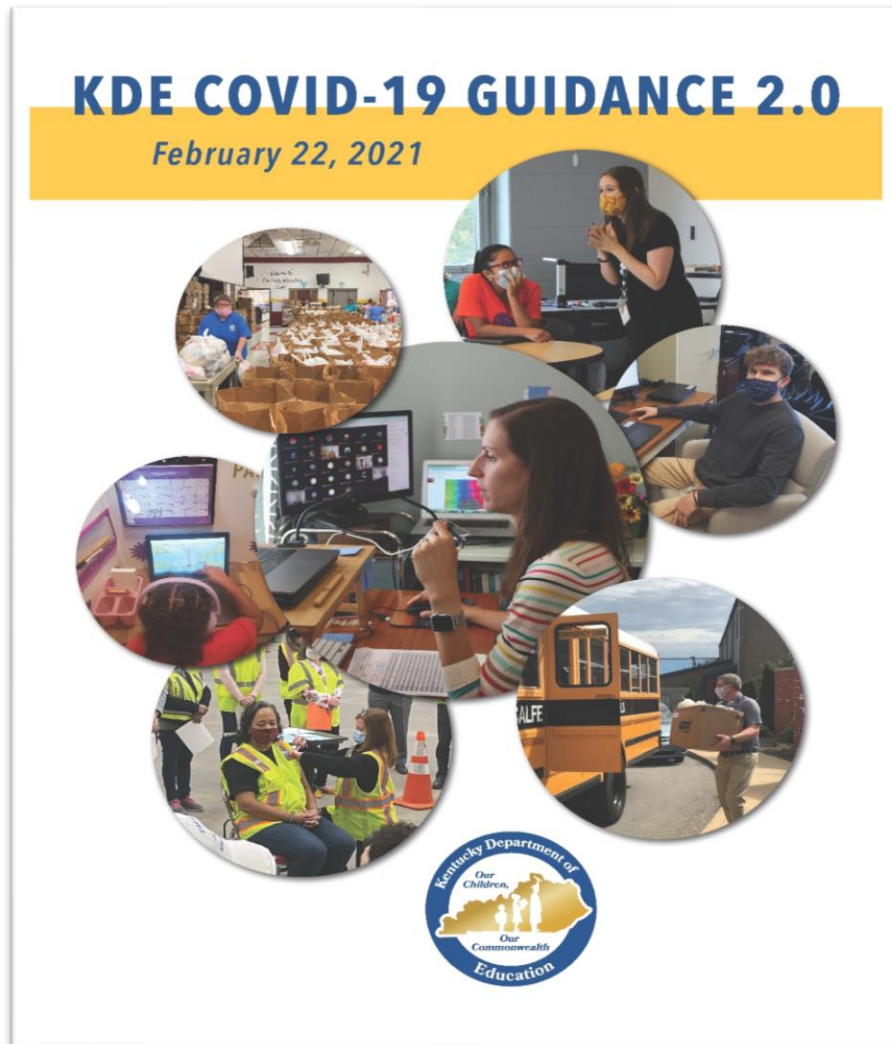
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**Kelly Foster, Ed.D.**, Associate Commissioner,  
KDE Office of Continuous Improvement and Support

**Toni Konz Tatman**, Chief Communications Officer,  
Kentucky Department of Education



# KDE COVID-19 Guidance 2.0



- 136-page manual that updates and combines guidance since the beginning of the pandemic a year ago.
- Presents the most up-to-date guidance for teaching, learning and operating schools and districts during the pandemic.
- This comprehensive resource features guidance from all nine KDE offices.
- Many of its sections were previously issued over the past year as stand-alone documents. KDE staff thoroughly reviewed all of the previous guidance to ensure recommendations continue to reflect best practices for schools and districts.



# Changes to the KDE COVID-19 Website

- We changed the “Reopening” tab to “KDE COVID-19 Guidance 2.0
- Updated the links



KDE COVID-19 GUIDANCE 2.0



NON-KDE RESOURCES



## KDE COVID-19 GUIDANCE 2.0

- [KDE COVID-19 Guidance 2.0 \(February 22, 2021\)](#)
- [Guidance and Safety Expectations and Best Practices for Kentucky Schools \(K-12\) - English \(UPDATED - December 7, 2020\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund II \(ESSER II\) \(UPDATED - February 22, 2021\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools: School-Related Student Travel \(February 16, 2021\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools - Participation in Spring 2021 Kentucky State Testing \(February 15, 2021\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools - Kentucky Summative Assessment Administration Guidance 2020-2021 School Year \(February 15, 2021\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools - Operating Schools after Vaccination \(UPDATED - February 11, 2021\)](#)
- [ESSER Relief Fund Guidance for LEAs \(May 19, 2020\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Governors Emergency Education Relief \(GEER\) Fund Guidance for LEAs \(May 12, 2020\)](#)



# ESSER II Preliminary Plans and Superintendents' Discussion

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- **Rob Clayton**, Warren County
- **David Trimble**, Pikeville Independent
- **Marlene Helm**, Interim, Fayette County
  - **Carrie Ballinger**, Rockcastle County
- **Karen Cheser**, Fort Thomas Independent



# Warren County Public Schools

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**Rob Clayton**, Superintendent

**Melissa Stephanski**, Chief Academic Officer

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**“Positive leaders don’t allow their present situation to keep them from creating a brighter and better future.” – Jon Gordon**

**“The pessimist complains about the wind. The optimist expects it to change. The leader adjusts the sails.” – John Maxwell**

Rob Clayton, Warren County Public Schools

Melissa Stephanski, Warren County Public Schools





5 Prong Approach – Reaching our Students and Meeting the Needs of Schools

Timeline of Response to Interrupted Learning Planning Process

Position Statements on Retention with Cited Research

Learning After Crisis Research







**Addressing Failing Students** ... Define failing – Reeves (no participation or proficiency level)

- **Flexible Hours:** Evening best for some students – working to assist families during pandemic
- **Essential Skills:** Pretest
- **Summer School Academy** that models camp; cloak in fun and excitement
- **Schedule summer enrichment** to align with athletic camps – increase participation
- **Virtual tutors**







## RETENTION:

- Documentation – Infinite Campus, parent contacts, etc.
- Not part of students' IEPs, not an ARC decision
- Consider whole child, not just academics – social-emotional
- K/1 combined classes (K-½ funding)





# Pikeville Independent Schools

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**David Trimble**, Superintendent  
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# **Pikeville Independent**

**Discovering Opportunity: Continued Success for EVERY Student**



# **Continued Success for EVERY Student**

**Intervention**

**Enrichment**

**Mental Health**

**Technology**



# Next Steps

**Surveys/Interviews**

**Continued Evaluation  
of Data**

**Communication of  
Plan, Goals and  
Calendars**

**Proceed  
Improve  
Implement**



# Fayette County Public Schools

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**Marlene Helm**, Interim Superintendent

**Mendy Mills**, Associate Director of Title I

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# SUMMER IGNITE

Fayette County Public Schools

**Goal:** To provide robust, rigorous and engaging opportunities for students to accelerate and extend learning in preparation for the 2021-2022 school year.



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



# Gathering Kindling: How did we get the fire started?

- Cross-functional planning committee
- Feedback from principal cadre groups
- Determined district parameters
- Identification of Summer Ignite school coordinators



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS





# **Sending Smoke Signals: How are we ensuring buy-in and support?**

- Family survey
- Focus groups
- Community partnerships



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



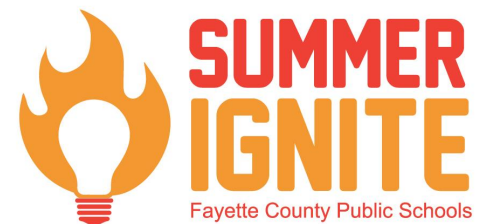


# Fanning the Flames: How are we recruiting staff?

- Increase of stipend rate for certified teachers
- Job share - co-teaching
- Certified substitutes
- Pre-service teachers from University of Kentucky
- Full-time positions for bus driver



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS





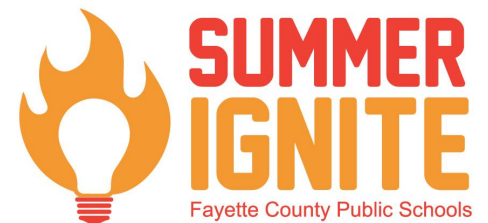
# Passing the Torch: How will each school plan?

*Autonomy to design plan based on the needs of their school*

- Needs assessment
- Identification of students
- Engagement
- Enrichment
- Community partners
- Staffing needs
- Resources/Materials



FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS





# Sparking Other Initiatives: How will we keep the fire going?

- **Re-envisioning**
  - Gathering ideas from all angles and corners of the community
- **Reimagining**
  - Bringing learning to our students with Partner Hubs
- **Renewing**
  - COVID-19 did not happen to us, it happened for us



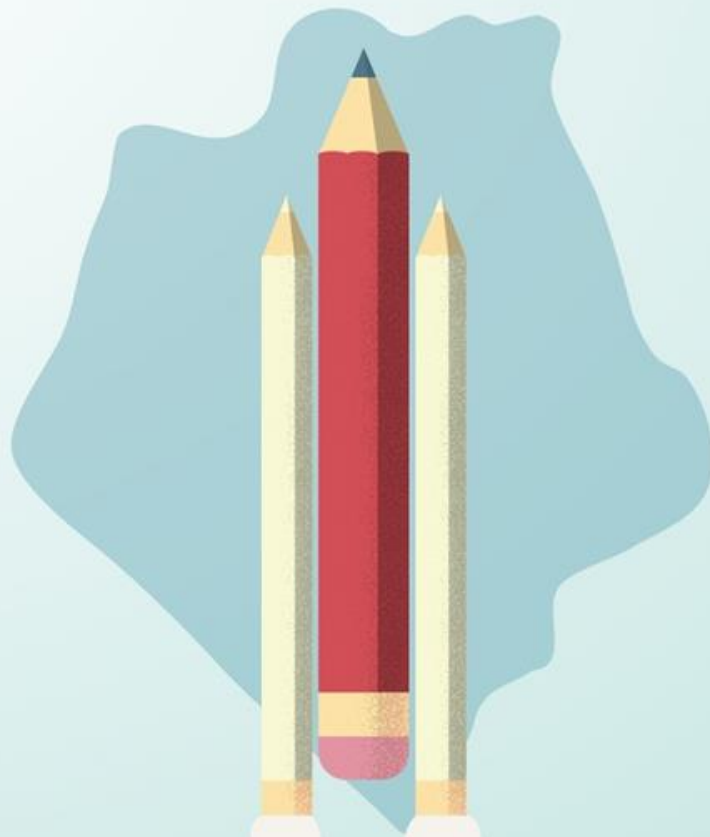


# Rockcastle County Schools

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**Carrie Ballinger**, Superintendent  
[Carrie.Ballinger@rockcastle.kyschools.us](mailto:Carrie.Ballinger@rockcastle.kyschools.us)





**Rockcastle County Schools**  
**Launching Into the Future**





# Instruction

## School Re-entry

- 4 days per week in person - March 22, 2021 (pending board approval)
- MyRock Online Student Support provided at each school for 2 hours each day (8-10 a.m.)
- Centralized Tutoring Center - 2 days per week for middle/high school students
- Friday targeted academic & social-emotional learning (SEL) support/club days

## Extended School Services

- 2 days per week (April and May)
- Focus areas: Academic tutoring with student enrichment choice and afterschool student clubs

## RCS Summer School

- CampROCK focus on grade-level standards, enrichment, intervention and SEL, creation of Student Mentoring Program (elementary/middle) - 2 days per week
- Week-long Learning Labs geared toward credit recovery with SEL supports and enrichment opportunities, survey students to appeal to their needs, creation of community mentoring program





# Instruction

## Professional Learning

- Adjusting curriculum and pacing guides by analyzing what was covered at each grade level, use of intentional spiral review
- Focus on high-yield teaching strategies
- Professional learning community (PLC) work to reinforce the use of the PDSA model and high-yield strategies
- Partnership with Elgin Foundation to provide principals resources and training on instructional leadership
- Target teacher leads to participate in KAGAN Cooperative Learning Structures Training (train the trainer model throughout school PLCs)
- Advanced Kentucky - Increase enrollment in STEM classrooms and increase rigor (grades 6-12)
- Continued digital learning training
  - Strategies for remote learning
  - Remote learning theories, practices and applications
  - Navigating learning management system
  - Relationship-building during periods of remote learning
- Teacher stipends for participation





# Instruction Technology

- 1:1 district
- Create a sustainability plan for Chromebooks and other technological needs
- Use of Diagnostic Assessment - i-Ready to pinpoint strengths and gaps
- Hotspots provided for students
- Technology Help Desk
- Continue promotion of Google certification

## Focus Groups to Explore:

- Textbooks versus technology ... find balance with student engagement
- Comprehensive Reading Program (K-8)
- Book rooms (K-8)
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) - Seamless integration of behavior, mental health, academics
- Imagination Library (Birth-5)
- At-home learning kits
- Expansion of Gifted and Talented services
- Support services at night and on Saturdays/Centralized Learning Center
- CTE/ATC summer camps





# Instruction

## **Digital Learning Academy/MyRock Online**

- Offered pre-COVID-19 with a focus on credit recovery
- Target grades 6-12
- Revamp program with a focus on innovation in learning for our virtual students
- Application/enrollment process
- Utilize ATC and CTE to improve access to postsecondary education, workforce or military opportunities
- Provide virtual tutors and mentors and require in-person check ins
- Provide SEL with partnership through Somerset Mental Health
- Explore options for Learning Management Systems
- Flexible scheduling
- Personalized learning





# Intervention and Related Services

*“We can’t RTI ourselves out of learning loss. We must focus on the delivery of solid core instruction and fill in the holes as we go.”*

## **Opportunity Myth**

- On grade-level assignments
- Strong instruction allowing students to do most of the thinking/listening
- Deep sense of engagement
- High student expectations

## **Hire District Support Staff** (through 2023 with board approval)

- District-level interventionists - Push in supports
- District-level social worker

## **Areas to Revisit**

- Overhaul district Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) and provide needed instructional supports for mental health, behavior and academics
- Integrate PBIS districtwide approach - use of SWIS behavior analysis





# Social Emotional Wellbeing & Climate

## Partnerships

- **Goal:** Provide educational and trauma-informed care in an integrated manner
- Collaborating with RockPeds to administer the PHQ-2 patient health questionnaire to all middle and high school students
- Counselors and district mental health coordinator will utilize data to flag students experiencing signs of depression or suicide
- Somerset Mental Health and RockPeds will assist in service plan
- Creation of community mentor program to support students identified through PHQ2 screening protocol and strengths and difficulties survey
- Proactive counseling groups at all schools for students experiencing grief/trauma, children of incarcerated parents, students dealing with the impact of substance abuse, etc.
- District mental health coordinator/school psychologists in partnership with RockPeds will provide training to all certified and classified staff regarding trauma



# Fort Thomas Independent Schools

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**Karen Cheser**, Superintendent  
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Rich in Tradition on the Future Focused

FORT THOMAS

FT

INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOLS





- 3,200 Students
- 5 Schools
- 5 days a week since Sept. 17 (except 3 weeks mandated NTI)
  - 92% then 96% students 2nd semester
  - 8% then 4% remote

### Our Intent

- If at all possible, following all HAS guidelines, all students have opportunity to go to school every day.
- Parents may choose remote instruction.
- Teachers with medical conditions may teach remote students.
- Teachers will not be responsible for both in-person and remote learning.

Fort Thomas ISD	
COVID Expenses as of 2/19/21	
Description	Amount
<b>NON PAYROLL</b>	
Thermal Cameras	\$ 88,036
IT Software & Hardware	\$ 139,825
Trailers at Elementary School	\$ 85,122
Cleaning Supplies	\$ 360,030
<b>TOTAL NON PAYROLL</b>	<b>\$ 673,013</b>
<b>PAYROLL</b>	
Additional Food Service	\$ 15,534
Certified Subs	\$ 142,087
Classified Subs	\$ 92,127
<b>TOTAL PAYROLL</b>	<b>\$ 249,749</b>
<b>Projected Additional Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 175,000</b>
<b>Projected Total 6/30/2021</b>	<b>\$ 1,097,762</b>
<b>GRANT FUNDS</b>	
ESSER I	\$ 120,826
ESSER II	\$ 593,425
GEER I	\$ 20,727
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 734,978</b>
<b>Shortfall Covered by General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 362,784</b>



# Teaching and Learning Through COVID-19

- **Remote learning alternative option for families**
  - Technology infrastructure
  - Virtual programming
- **Personalized learning**
  - Addressing academic skill gaps
  - Individual student acceleration
- **Monitoring academic progress**
  - Ongoing assessment of student learning
  - Evaluating learning loss
- **Responding to student needs**
  - Summer bridge programming
  - Literacy and mathematics skills practice



# Mental Health/ Social Emotional Support

- Administer and analyze data from the Resiliency Poll (Terrace Metrics)
- Meet immediate needs of students
- Partnership with 1N5
- Develop a professional learning plan for faculty/staff with mental health as a priority



Questions?



# Next Special Superintendents Webcast:

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

2-4 p.m. ET



# QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

with Superintendent Guests and KDE Leadership Team

(Submit questions via Google Form)